

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An apparatus for converting structured document comprising:

acquisition means for acquiring distribution rule  
5 information wherein distribution rules of contents are described and receiver side situation information wherein the situations at the side of receivers of the contents are described;

generation means for generating the conversion rule  
10 information wherein the conversion rules for converting structured documents in which information about the contents is described, on the basis of the distribution rule information and the receiver side situation information acquired by the acquisition means; and

15 conversion means for converting the structured documents, on the basis of the conversion rule information generated by the generation means.

2. The apparatus according to claim 1, the generation means comprises a first extraction means for extracting  
20 evaluation objects of the conditions included in the distribution rules from the distribution rule information, a second extraction means for extracting the receiver side situation corresponding to the evaluation object from the receiver side situation information on the basis of the  
25 evaluation objects extracted by said first extraction means, and evaluation means for evaluating the conditions on the

basis of the receiver side situation extracted by the second extraction means, and on the basis of the results of the evaluation performed by the evaluation means, the conversion rule information is generated.

5        3.        The apparatus according to claim 2, when the evaluation performed by the evaluation means is a negative evaluation, the generation means generates the conversion rule information including a conversion rule to delete objects corresponding to the conditions under which the evaluation  
10        has been performed from the structured document or change the objects concerned.

4.        The apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising memory means for storing the conversion rule information generated by the generation means, in correspondence to the  
15        evaluation objects extracted by the first extraction means and the receiver side situation extracted by the second extraction means, wherein

          the generation means further comprising a third extraction means that, on the basis of the evaluation objects  
20        extracted by the first extraction means and the receiver side situation extracted by the second extraction means, extracts the conversion rule information corresponding to the evaluation objects and the receiver side situation from the conversion rule information stored by the memory means,  
25        and when the conversion rule information is not extracted by the third extraction means, the generation means generates

the conversion rule information on the basis of the result of the evaluation performed by the evaluation means, and

when the conversion rule information is extracted by the third extraction means, the conversion means converts a structured document, on the basis of the extracted conversion rule information.

5. A method for converting structured document comprising steps of:

acquiring distribution rule information wherein distribution rules of contents are described and receiver side situation information wherein the situations at the side of receivers of the contents are described;

generating conversion rule information wherein the conversion rules for converting the structured document in which information about the contents is described, on the basis of the distribution rule information and the receiver side situation information acquired in the acquiring step; and

converting structured documents, on the basis of the conversion rule information generated in the generating step.

6. A program, for which a computer performs functions, for converting structured document, the functions comprising:

acquisition means for acquiring distribution rule information wherein distribution rules of contents are

described and receiver side situation information wherein situations at the side of receivers of the contents are described;

5        generation means for generating conversion rule information wherein the conversion rules for converting the structured document in which information about contents is described, on the basis of the distribution rule information and the receiver side situation information acquired by the acquisition means; and

10       conversion means for converting the structured documents, on the basis of the conversion rule information generated by the generation means.